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TOR:121750Z APR 76

P R 121610Z APR 76
FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7807
INFO RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 277
RUDTC/AMEMBASSY LONDON 350

BT

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TAGS: PLOS, EI

SUBJ: LOS: SECRETARY'S APRIL 8 SPEECH

REF: STATE 085109

1. BOTH AMBASSADOR AND FOREIGN MINISTER TRAVELLING IN
COUNTRY AND NOT IN DUBLIN DURING THIS PRE-EASTER HOLIDAY
SEASON. DCM AND POL OFFICER DELIVERED COPY OF SPEECH AND COVERED
TALKING POINTS IN REFTEL TO DEPUTY MFA SECRETARY MCDONOUGH,
STRESSING IMPORTANCE OF REACHING AGREEMENT THIS YEAR.

2. MCDONOUGH SAID THAT THE GOI IS STILL DIGESTING SECRETARY'S
SPEECH, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS AN EXTRAORDINARY SPEECH WITH
PROPOSALS, IF ADOPTED, WHICH ARE UNPRECEDENTED IN HUMAN
HISTORY. ALTHOUGH HE SAID THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO MAKE ANY
SPECIFIC COMMENTS BEFORE THE IRISH DELEGATION SENDS IN
RECOMMENDATIONS, MCDONOUGH ASSURED US THAT THE IRISH WILL
DO EVERYTHING WITHIN THEIR LIMITED POWER TO ACHIEVE A TREATY
THIS YEAR.

3. COMMENT: WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE IRISH POSE ANY PROBLEMS
ON ANY MAJOR ISSUE, THOUGH THEIR ABILITY TO BE HELPFUL IS
DOUBTFUL. THE IRISH ATTORNEY GENERAL, DECLAN COSTELLO, IS NOW
IN NEW YORK HEADING THE DELEGATION, BUT NEITHER COSTELLO NOR
THE REST OF THE DELEGATION ARE PARTICULARLY IMPRESSIVE. IF A
FOLLOW-ON SESSION OCCURS AND FONMIN FITZGERALD FOLLOWS THE
SECRETARY'S EXAMPLE THEN THE IRISH MIGHT BE HELPFUL
IN BENDING VARIOUS LDC ELBOWS AS FITZGERALD IS A RATHER
IMPRESSIVE CHARACTER IN ANY GATHERING. HE HAS TAKEN QUITE A
PERSONAL INTEREST IN THIS SUBJECT AND PLAYING IRELAND'S ROLE
OF A COUNTRY WITH A RECENT PAST OF GAINING
INDEPENDENCE HE CAN MAKE POINTS WITH SELECTED LDC'S.
WE APPRECIATE THE TIMELY AND LUCID REPORTING OF THIS
CONFERENCE FROM THE USDEL AND WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS THE
IRISH AS OPPORTUNITY OCCURS. CURLEY

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